## Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 5, 2011

The Honorable Dave Camp Chairman Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Sander Levin Ranking Member Committee on Ways and Means U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Camp and Ranking Member Levin:

As members from states without an income tax, we write to encourage you to include an extension of the state and local sales tax deduction in any tax extenders package during the remaining weeks of the first session of the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress. Our objective is to provide our constituents with the same treatment afforded to residents of states with an income tax.

The sales tax deduction saves taxpayers in our states millions of dollars per year and is a vital component of our states' economies, spurring growth and creating jobs. Unfortunately, as you know, the sales tax deduction will expire at the end of 2011. If the deduction is not extended in a timely manner, our constituents will not be able to deduct their state and local sales taxes on their 2011 federal tax returns.

The sales tax deduction has enjoyed strong bipartisan support during the six years since it was enacted in its present form by the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004. It was extended by bipartisan Congresses in 2006, 2008 and 2010. Millions of middle-class families in Texas, Nevada, Florida, Washington, Tennessee, South Dakota and Wyoming will be negatively hit with a higher tax burden if Congress does not act to extend this deduction.

We strongly urge you to maintain fairness in the tax code, and to provide certainty and predictability to taxpayers by extending the sales tax deduction. We greatly appreciate your continued support on this issue and we thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

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